



ALABAMA LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

201 SOUTH UNION STREET, SUITE 300 / P.O. BOX 304115 / MONTGOMERY, AL 36130-4115
PHONE 334.517.2800 / ALEA.GOV

ROBERT BENTLEY
GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY

STAN STABLER
SECRETARY

KEVIN WRIGHT
DEPUTY SECRETARY

DATE January 3, 2017

FROM Alabama Law Enforcement Agency (ALEA)

RE Question and Answer (Q&A) Document
Request for Proposal – Alabama Public Safety Broadband Radio Access Network

Question 1) Can the State provide a list of the interested bidders for this solicitation?

Answer 1) The State will not be able to provide a list of interested bidders for this solicitation.

Question 2) We are aware that there are a number of agencies currently using the 12.5MHz in Alabama. In order to address this requirement realistically, can the state provide a list of incumbents currently using the 700MHz Public Safety spectrum in Alabama, including the number and location of sites, number of devices and users currently exploiting that public-safety spectrum?

RFP Reference for Question 2) In Section 7.3, Requirement 14, the RFP states: “Respondents should indicate their approach for relocating current users of the spectrum to other available narrowband frequencies at no cost to the users or the state.”

Answer 2) The licensees in this spectrum can be searched using the Federal Communications Commission’s Universal Licensing System at: <http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/index.htm?job=home> – Please note that all licensees may not be using the spectrum they are licensed for.

Question 3) In order to provide the detail required, can the state provide a list of state-owned or –controlled infrastructure (tower sites, backhaul, others) that are available for use in deploying the RAN in Alabama?

RFP Reference for Question 3) In Section 7.3, Requirement 10, the RFP states: “Respondents must fully detail their approach to integration of state, local, and tribal infrastructure within their network design.”

Answer 3) Respondents should fully detail their “approach” to this component of their response and how it may/may not affect the business plan/state cost. At this time, the state is not providing further details on available infrastructure, but will work closely with FirstNet or the selected Alabama PSB-RAN awardee to incorporate existing infrastructure based on the Governor’s decision to opt-in or opt-out.

(Continued on the following page.)



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Question 4) Is the Alabama Medicaid committee involved in evaluation and selection?

RFP Reference for Question 4) Page 21 (3)(f), “If, for reasons cited above, the bid selected is not from the lowest bidding contractor, the Alabama Medicaid Agency shall present its reasons for not recommending award to the low bidder to the Medicaid Interim Committee. The committee shall evaluate the findings of the Alabama Medicaid Agency and must, by resolution, approve the action of the awarding authority before final awarding of any such contract. The committee shall also hear any valid appeals against the recommendation of the Alabama Medicaid Agency from the low bid contractor(s) whose bid was not selected.”

Answer 4) No, the Alabama Medicaid Agency will not directly be involved in the evaluation and selection of an award winner for this solicitation. The RFP section referenced for this question is quoted directly from the state contract laws and is not specifically applicable to this RFP.

Question 5) Will the State of Alabama identify which regional planning council or other agencies are required for coordination (12 x Regional Councils, Office of Broadband Development, etc.)?

RFP Reference for Question 5) Page 27, 7.3, 14, “Respondents should indicate their commitment to collaboration with the state’s Regional Planning Council for building the appropriate business case and requests for consideration for alternative use of the narrowband land mobile radio spectrum for broadband use by the state’s current user community.”

Answer 5) Respondents should review the following information:
<https://www.fcc.gov/general/700-mhz-rpc-directory-0>

Question 6) Clarification needed for Code of Alabama 1975 §§ Section 10-28-15.01, et seq.

RFP Reference for Question 6) On page 22, “Documentation that the respondent is qualified to transact business within the State of Alabama in accordance with the Code of Alabama 1975 §§ Section 10-28-15.01, et seq., and possesses a Certificate of Authority issued by the Secretary of State at the time a professional services contract is executed. For the entire term that the contract is in effect the selected provider must continuously be in good standing with the State of Alabama and with any political subdivisions thereof which have jurisdiction over the provider's operations;”

Answer 6) This code section is referring to an entity being qualified to transact business in the state. The code section should read “10-2B-15.01”. It can also found in Title 10-A, specifically 10A-9-9.02 under “Application for certificate of (continued...)”



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(continued...) authority". The paperwork in this section of the RFP would be in reference to filings an entity has with the Alabama Secretary of State office to show its certificate of authority.

Question 7) Will the State of Alabama be able to enter into a long-term contract (20-25 years) for the Alabama PSB-RAN or is the contract limited to 5 years?

Answer 7) There are several ways that a long-term contract can be established for purposes of the Alabama PSB-RAN. Discussions with Alabama Department of Finance indicate that a long term contract of 20 or more years can be entered into by the state under these unique circumstances. Such a contract could be in one of several various formats (purchase/lease/professional services) based on final negotiations between the state and the selected vendor prior to a final contract being signed.